

# HARMONY FIRE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 360 – 194 Putnam Pike  
Harmony, R.I. 02829

The regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Harmony Fire District Executive Board was held at the Harmony Fire Station on **Thursday, March 17, 2011.**

Present: Chief Stuart Pearson; Moderator – Raymond Fogarty, Jr.;  
Tax Collector – Kimberly Barber; Attorney – Fred Mason, Jr.;  
Board Members – James Richards, Milton Huston & George Kain

Absent: Treasurer – Sandra Owens – excused;  
Board Member – Louise Michaels – excused;  
Association Representative – John Falco, President – excused

**I. – Meeting Called to Order: 7:04 pm** by Moderator Fogarty.

**II. – Approval of Bills:**

Jim made a motion to approve the bills. Milt seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.

**III. – Approval of the minutes from the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

Moderator Fogarty asked the board if there were any discrepancies to note on the minutes from the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Everyone was provided a copy in advance for review. If there are no corrections, he would like to call for a motion to accept them.

Milt made a motion to accept the minutes. George seconded the motion.  
The motion carried unanimously.

**IV. – Treasurer's Report:**

Due to Sandy's absence there was no report available to present.

**V. – Tax Collector's Report:**

Taxes receivable balance as of today's date is \$125,443.95. Taxes collected in the month of February were slow and also offset by a couple of refunds so they end total was \$1,039.60. Past due tax bills were printed today and will be mailed tomorrow.

Third party billing was also slow in the month of February due to fewer runs, \$2,917.01.

Kim started an on-line course through CCRI – A to Z Grant Writing.

Milt made a motion to accept the Tax Collector's report. Jim seconded it.  
The motion carried unanimously.

## **VI. – Chief's Report:**

Captain Randy Brackett and Lieutenant Kevin Farley are currently enrolled in a 1041 Instructors Training Class.

On March 4<sup>th</sup> Kim met with a representative from Concentra-Urgent Care. A new contract is being set up for our employee physicals.

Our third party billing company, Healthcare Management and Billing Systems, was bought out by the Dawson Group. President Kimberly Dawson came in to meet with Kim and the Chief to discuss her company and answer any questions. Dawson will honor the 3 year contract we entered into on 7/1/10 with HMBS. Our rate is 5%, their rate otherwise would be 6%. A nice feature of the Dawson Group is that they offer training in-services to help train our crew in the preparation of reports.

At the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Gloucester Public Safety Commission, the Chief submitted a letter on behalf of the district board regarding the issue of speed bumps. Ruth Cole stated that it will be addressed on the next GPSC agenda within about two weeks.

### *Upcoming Events:*

There will be a Tri-State Firemen's League meeting hosted by the Harmony Fire Department on April 24<sup>th</sup>. George is the President of the TSFL.

George made a motion to accept the Chief's report. Milt seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

## **VII. – Harmony Fire Department & Improvement Association Report:**

Due to John's absence there was no report available to present.

However the Chief mentioned the following upcoming events:

The Gloucester Fire Departments Annual Banquet will be at the Thompson Speedway in Thompson, CT on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Cocktails at 6:00 pm and Dinner at 7:00 pm.

Harmony Fire Department and Improvement Association Golf Tournament will be at the Crystal Lake Golf Course in Burrillville on June 18<sup>th</sup>. See Deputy Chief Mike Segee or Private Linda Ferragamo for further information.

## **VIII. – Committee Reports:**

### **a. Policies & Procedures Manual – Milton, Chair**

Milt has gone through the Policies Now CD's that Kim purchased and is very pleased with the quality of the product. He stated it is a pretty decent utility that should make short work of this project. He should have a draft ready for our next meeting. Then the next thing for the board to consider will be having an outside party review the document.

Kim also provided Milt with several sample Access to Public Records documents to review for inclusion in the manual.

- b. Charter & By-Laws Review – George, Chair  
Kim spoke with Maria DeCastro at the State House on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Kim sent her a copy of the minutes where the board voted to accept the changes and she said that would be sufficient, not to worry about the certification. The bill for our Charter changes has gone ahead and is now in the proofing stage.

**IX. – Old Business:**

- a. Review of Boiler Replacement project.  
Water analysis received from Mulcahey. It showed positive results in the fact that we will not have to consider putting in a new well. The sodium level is coming down in the water. However the PH level is up.
- b. Update of RIDOT road work in Harmony.  
Letters were sent to Senator Fogarty and Representatives Winfield and Chippendale. Senator Fogarty has already confirmed that he will be attending and he has contacted a RI Department of Transportation Engineer to attend also.

**X. – New Business:** Addressed throughout report.

**XI. – Public Input:** No audience.

**XII. – Executive Session:** None called.

**XIII. – Adjournment:**

Milt made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded it. The motion carried unanimously. The March meeting of the Harmony Fire District Executive Board was adjourned at **7:16 pm**.

The next meeting of the Harmony Fire District Executive Board is scheduled for **Thursday, 7:00 pm, April 21, 2011** at the Harmony Fire Department.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly S. Barber  
Tax Collector/Secretary